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"It's Different"



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It's Time For . . .

Planting winter flowers, spring bulbs, the first autumn-blooming CHRYSANTHEMUMS, and the last of the heat-loving HIBISCUS. It is also time to feed again for fall bloom — Roses, perennials, Lantana, Geraniums and to protect all sun-tender plants from the hottest weather of the year.

Winter flowers are from plants put in early — right now: CALENDULAS, ICELAND POPPIES, WALLFLOWERS, NEMESIA, STOCK, SNAPS, and PANSIES, all 40 to 60 cents a dozen in flats; REINWARDTIA INDICA (Winter Flax)—yellow, two feet, sun or part shade, \$1 in gallons; CESTRUM ELEGANS — crimson, four to eight feet, part shade, \$1 in gallons; CASSIA ARTEMISOIDES—yellow, four to six feet, sun and dry, \$1.25 in gallons. Dig deep and well before installing any of these, incorporating plenty of manure, humisite and bonemeal.

Prepare similarly for BULBS — except no manure. Bulbs do so well so easily we forget how much better they perform if

(Continued on inside page)

Old Vintage Mum

For the first time in many years we are able to offer the KOREAN CHRYSANTHEMUM as a part of our extensive autumn mum display. Primarily singles, they are delicately rayed, medium-sized flowers in subtle pastel shadings so abundantly produced on the compact plants that in full bloom they appear as huge bouquets. In distinct contrast to their ever more ostentatious hybrid cousins, the Korean Chrysanthemums are for the lover of informal plantings and old-fashioned charm in flowers.

These fall-flowering Chrysanthemums have more old-fashioned qualities than charm to offer however: they are durable perennials which thrive in the full sun, in locations difficult for other flowers, require no fussing with stakes or disbudding, are ideal as bedding or border plants and as substitutes for the omnipresent Marguerite which growth habit they resemble, and supply myriad long-lasting flowers for cutting. (Gallons, 85 cents). R.M., M.E., P.E.C.

TURNABOUT: GREEN SHRIMP FROM RED!

Beloperone or the "Shrimp Plant" is an old timer long used in temperate and subtropical gardens as specimen, border or pot plant. The curious rusty brown flowers are produced almost continually throughout the year. Correctly speaking, what appears to be the flower is actually a leafy bract, the true flowers are white, much the same arrangement as in Bougainvilleas which also have tiny white flowers. The Beloperone has always been a useful plant but the color has sometimes been a problem. Now for the first time we are able to offer something new and different—a CHARTREUSE-FLOWERED SHRIMP PLANT.



This new Beloperone is a mutation or natural accident, having all the attributes of the common Beloperone guttata but with a much more digestible flower (pardon us, bract).

The shrimp plant is generously used in the Hawaiian Islands and in Florida where its constant and profuse flower is most effective. We think that this new color break (literally and figuratively) will earn the plant a much wider use in our gardens. Beloperone, in case you have never grown it, is very easy to handle, no cultural tricks or special fertilizers are needed, a little staking when young will suffice. (\$2.50). M.E.

THE INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION

The keynote to the International Horticultural Exhibition at Hamburg is the emphasis upon the relationship of ornamental plant material to the landscape in which it is used. This very emphasis upon use and space organization seem even more significant in terms of ultimate value to the observer than the quality and quantity of plants themselves. Quantity and quality are also impressive, in fact superlative, but the skillful execution of an over all plan by Landscape Architect Plomin and his capable assistants has presented the public with a survey of the art of gardening of our time, the gardens of fifteen nations. These nations are Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Eire, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

One approaches the grounds along wide, well-groomed streets shaded by ancient lime and plane trees, in the midst of one of the most horticulturally rich sections of the continent. A level to rolling plain of great fertility is cut by wide and meandering rivers and canals and spotted by generous lakes. The climate is high in latitude, and is essentially marine, thereby moist and cool, tempered from extremes and favored by long daylight hours throughout the summer. The plant materials native and imported suggest a climatic similarity to Vancouver, B.C., considerably milder in winter than Berlin which lies inland to the south-east. Now a metropolis of some two million, Hamburg centers around a handsome lake, the Alster, and a harbor which is really the river Elbe. In three nights of July, 1943, a great portion of the city was levelled by bombs, but the magnificent section of shops and hotels fronting the Alster remained or have been repaired and it is this area with its adjoining parks and parkways that is the heart of Hamburg.

From airport, harbor, railway station and main thoroughfares one is directed to "Pflanzen und Blumen" by whimsically clever signboards, exercises in contemporary design, adequate but unobtrusive. Beyond the Botanic Garden one enters the Exhibition grounds through ample gates beneath the flags of the fifteen nations. Inside the atmosphere is definitely that of an exposition, and one is attracted first to the gay and delightful architecture of the pavillions, most exciting of which is the steel and glass observation tower, from which one may view the entire Exhibition and the city. Other outstanding features include the musical fountain—music with water in color; the pipe-and-bowl fountain amid a stony brook in the Iris Valley (here in an area of 3,000 square feet, 600 varieties of Iris are naturalized, including many new hybrids still virtually unknown to the landscape and amateur trade); the all-glass Tropical House of ultra contemporary design, beautifully planted to rare succulents, the carnivorous *Nepenthes*, Orchids, Bromeliads, and heat-loving large-leaved tropicalls; a Rose garden of unusual naturalness and charm; the tree nursery island, new plastic sculptures on the main avenue, a splendid book pavillion, endless small fountains all simple and modern, and acres of water garden.

The use of water plants, both in and alongside water, is one of the high points of the Exhibition. Particularly memorable subjects growing in water are *Euphorbia palustris*, *Acorus calamus*, *Scirpus lacustris* (four to five feet), *Potentilla* (*Comarum*) *palustris*, *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*, *Alisma plantago-aquatica*, *Catabrosa* (*Glyceria*) *aquatica*, *Iris Pseudacorus*, *Glyceria fluitans*, and *Ranunculus Lingua*. Most of these delightful pool and brook plants are practically unobtainable in Southern California.

The most outstanding perennial used in quantity masses is the *Delphinium*, hundreds and thousands over hill and down dale, the unforgettable spires of all the blues of the spectrum. One of the most effective out-of-the-ordinary trees put to conspicuous use, particularly by Gebruder Mohr of Elmshorn, was the *Pterocarya fraxinifolia*, an almost-black-barked deciduous subject of great structural value, always branching from ground in multiple trunks, the compound leaves suggesting *Ailanthus* or *Phellodendron amurense*. A continuous architectural feature of charm and informality are walks of decomposed granite (or a similar compound) edged with flagstone, flat on the outside and naturally jagged inside.

Other well used plants conspicuous to Americans are the stately *Phellodendron*; *Robinia tortuosa* (effective in the landscape exhibit of Lorenz von Ehren of Hamburg-Nienstedten); *Chamaecyparis nookatensis pendula*, an exotic black-green and gray-green weeping conifer wisely used alone with rocks and lichens; an endless collection of *Mahonia* and *Berberis* and *Mahoberberis*; *Lithospermum purpurea-caeruleum*; divers grasses and bamboos; *Genista* and *Erica* by the dozens; and as almost everywhere in Europe, the magnificent bronze-leaved *Corylus Avellana atropurpurea*, a shrubby tree of many climates and uses.

IT'S TIME FOR...

(Continued from front page)

we really pulverize the soil in which they are placed, adding plenty of bonemeal. At this point we quote from our September 1950 issue: "In this area bulbs fall culturally into two classes — those from colder climates accustomed to frozen ground and plenty of water throughout the year, and those from South Africa or the Mediterranean which greatly prefer drying out in the summer or at least extra good drainage. It is the second group to which we wish especially to call your attention.

"ANEMONES and RANUNCULUS we all know (but how many of us use them to maximum effect both for cutting and garden display!), as well as LEUCOJUM (Snowflake), bulbous (Dutch), IRIS and MUSCARI (Grape Hyacinth). But few of us are familiar with the possibilities of GLADIOLUS TRISTIS, an excellent long-stemmed cut flower for March and April, in pale yellow, cream and almost white. TRITONIA CROCATATA is a brilliant flame flower of vivid delicacy. One of the easiest and gaudiest of the South Africans is SPARAXIS, predominantly coral and orange with almost-black markings." Another excellent cutting flower for late spring is ORNITHOGALUM ARABICUM (Star of Bethlehem)—two feet stems surmounted by handsome black-eyed white blossoms in April, and then there is also the beautiful WATSONIA with three to five foot stalks of pink, white or rose.

In all our preparation for winter and spring let's not forget to keep up our MULCHING AND WATERING through the hottest, driest season—our favorite mulch is still the same—equal parts of Georgia peat, Humisite, and steer manure; and let's not forget also that October will bring cooler, longer nights and a great new rush of bloom on some of our cooler-loving plants—IF WE FEED AND WATER AND PRUNE PRESERVINGLY NOW. Thin out all Roses and cut them back slightly and treat them to a third of a cupful of Ammonium PHOSPHATE or at least a cupful of Rose Food or Gro-rite or Vigoro—or something, practically anything with high nitrogen AND high phosphoric acid content; then cover over with the above mulch and water deep at least every day. Cut back also Lantana and Geraniums and give them a little of the attention recommended for Roses. October could be a second May! P.E.C.

Rhyme in Season

I always speak quite gingerly
Except of plants that injure me,
But poison ivy, poison oak
Are not my idea of a joke.

Those little plants that bite your finger
Those stings get stingier while they linger,
There's nothing worse, you must admit,
Than to sense a cactus where you sit!

If you are gardening for fun,
Wear gloves until the job is done;
For plants which make you burst with pride,
Will turn from Jekyll into Hyde.

G.F.H.

Hugh Evans

For color and show plant Hibiscus; but place these fine things in a protected spot, for they dislike wind and strong drafts. Up against a sunny wall Hibiscus will bloom over a much longer period than will a Rhododendron for instance; as a matter of fact there are few flowering shrubs which show so much pomp and glory in the summer and autumn as Hibiscus. Plant them properly, not too deep, in well drained soil. Feed them during the spring and summer (proper feeding will produce good foliage as well as bloom), and these plants will delight you with such a pageant as to attract universal admiration.

Have you ever noticed how in the older quarters of every town and city the old Hibiscus bushes make such a grand display of life and color? Too often these shrubs have been planted in cold areas visited by sharp frosts. It is always an injustice to any plant to put it in an area or situation which is wholly unsuitable and unfriendly. Hibiscus will bloom for over six months and in a warm winter well into January. What more can you expect of any plant?

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A very distinguished English amateur gardener, who spent some time with us visiting gardens, was especially taken with the pure white fragrant H. Waimea. We gave him several to take back with him, and in a letter I received from him the other day he related that he has made a present of one to Queen Elizabeth!

Bulbs That LIKE California!

It's time to set out the exotic bulbs from our climate-cousins, the Mediterranean perimeter & South Africa. Check our bulb list (yours upon request, if you haven't already received one), "It's Time For . . . " this issue, & plan your bulb garden with our salesmen NOW.